(b) and (c) Dose not arise.

Retroactive financing for clearance of projects

2445. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Centre for retroactive financing from April, 2006 in view of time required for clearance of projects; and

(b) if so, the response of Government in this regard and the details of funds released against this request during the last three years period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Yes Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh *vide* its letter dated 11th October 2007 addressed to the Union Finance Minister had urged the Central Government to create a window under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for retroactive financing as and when they are cleared for AIBP financing.

(b) AIBP was started with the objective of completing last mile projects with the assistance of Central Government and any attempt to reimburse the expenditure already incurred by the States on the ongoing projects which do not have prior approval of the Central Government would dilute the focus on AIBP and put considerable fiscal burden on Central Government. Therefore, it may not be possible for Central Government to create a window of retroactive financing under AIBP given the fiscal constraints.

Central Water Commission

2446. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recruitment, educational qualification and the nature of work of Research Assistant and Assistant Silt Analyst in Central Water Commission are same; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the Research Assistant's scale not been provided to Assistant Silt Analyst at the time of granting 1st Assured Career Progression Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No, Sir. The recruitment, educational qualification and nature of work of Research Assistant and Assistant Silt Analyst are not the same.

(b) The post of Assistant Silt Analyst is an isolated post and not the feeder grade post for Research Assistant in Central Water Commission (CWC). As per the provisions contained in the Assured Career Progression Scheme, Assistant Silt Analysts, on first financial upgradation, are eligible for grant of the immediate next higher pay scale of Rs. 4000-6000 and not the par scale of the post of Research Assistants (Rs. 4500-7000).